Church Life

VOLUME I MAY, 1904 NUMBER 5

The First Baptist Church of Chicago

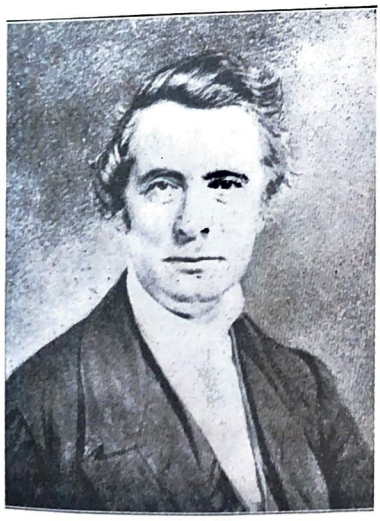
Seventy Years of History: 1833-1903

Edward Goodman

CHAPTER III, 1848-1859

Rev. Elisha Tucker, D. D. became the sixth pastor of the church in September, 1848. Dr. Tucker came direct from the Oliver Street Baptist Church, New York city, and remained as pastor two and a half years, during which time, under his able and consecrated ministry, there were large accessions to the church.

Cyrus Bentley in his history of the



Rev. Elisha Tucker, D. D.

church published in 1866, says of Dr. Tucker: "He was a man than whom, without disparaging others, none more noble, more devoted, or more beloved ever adorned the pastoral office of the church. Of lofty bearing in the pulpit, having a well trained and harmonious voice, earnest in manner, eloquent in discourse, speaking from behind the cross, he enchained the attention and carried conviction to his hearers." In the spring of 1851, on account of failing health, Dr. Tucker tendered his resignation, which the church declined to accept, hoping that by relaxation he might regain his former vigor. The church letter to the Fox River Association which met in Batavia June 4 and 5, 1851, reported that the church mourned because of the fact that "ill health had deprived them of the labors of their highly esteemed pastor." At the next associational meeting held at Newark June 2 and 3, 1852, Dr. Tucker was present, having returned from the east, where he had attended the metings of the American Baptist Missionary Union; and he reported to the association the important features of the meeting. All hopes of Dr. Tucker's recovery were in vain. He died December 29, 1853, of paralysis, after a lingering illness, at the residence of his son in Cumberland, Maryland. At the meeting of the Fox River Association held in Oswego, June 7 and 8, 1854, the following was adopted: "Resolved, That in the death of Rev. Elisha Tucker, D. D. one of the brightest lights of the church has been extinguished—a light which shed its radiance far and wide." Dr. Tucker left a widow, who remained a much beloved member of the church until her death, March 15, 1890, in her ninety-fourth year.

An interesting experience in connection with Dr. Tucker's pastorate was related to the writer some years ago by Mr. Charles T. Boggs, who was once a trustee of the First Church and a much esteemed member until he was called hence, Decem-

ber 29, 1902, in his ninety-first year.

Mr. Boggs in the spring of 1850 lived on the corner of State and Van Buren streets. He had been awakened on the subject of religion in early days, but kept it to himself. The following is Mr. Boggs' statement:

"One evening I started to visit some friends on South Water street, and talk over the events of the week. As I was pasing down the street near Madison street, something said to me—not to go down there, but to go to the First Baptist Church on Washington street corner of La Salle street. I wanted to get clear of the impression but I could not. I went quietly into the church and sat down in the rear, in the lecture room basement. Dr. Tucker before he closed the meeting got up and spoke on the plan of salvation. He said—

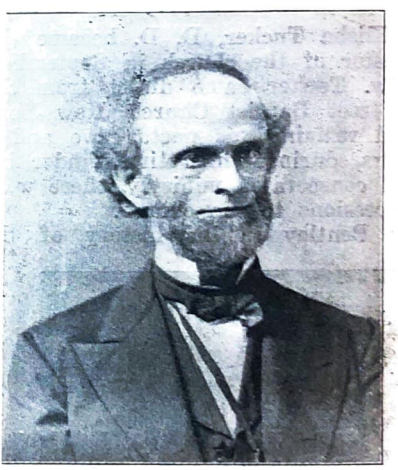
Cyrus Bentley

'I have presented the plan of salvation earnestly and faithfully and I call on God to witness, that any who pass out of that door tonight and have not given themselves to the Saviour, and should die before another opportunity, that their blood could not be on my head.' After singing a hymn Dr. Tucker invited anyone who wished to give himself to the Saviour to manifest it by rising. The spirit said to me, 'I have called on you time and time again, and if you do not accept the Saviour now I will withdraw my spirit and leave you alone'—I immediately arose and requested prayer and gave myself to the Saviour then and there. I have never had a doubt, that it was God's spirit that led me at that time. I had to settle the question of baptism. I examined for myself the Bible and the texts on the subject, and came out a very strong Baptist and have never had a doubt on the question since. I was baptized by Dr. Tucker in the spring of 1850 in the baptistry, which I had helped to build."

During the year and half succeeding the resignation of Dr. Tucker, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Mr. Page, Rev. W. C. Brown, and Rev. J. R. Balme, until October, 1852, when Rev. J. C. Burroughs from Waterford, N. Y., became the seventh pastor.

In 1852 Cyrus Bentley was elected clerk of the church and served with marked ability for twenty-two years, giving most valuable assistance in many ways not only to the church but to the denomination.

Immediately after the coming of Dr. Burroughs, on October 20, 1852, the church



Rev. J. C. Burroughs, D. D.

edifice was entirely destroyed by fire, while workmen were employed repairing the roof. The writer stood across the street opposite on the Court House Square and witnessed the conflagration. The First Presbyterian Church located on the corner east on the same block kindly offered the use of its rooms for prayer meetings and one service each Sunday which was accepted and used until a large frame building on Clark street in the rear of the Presbyterian Church, was leased and occupied.

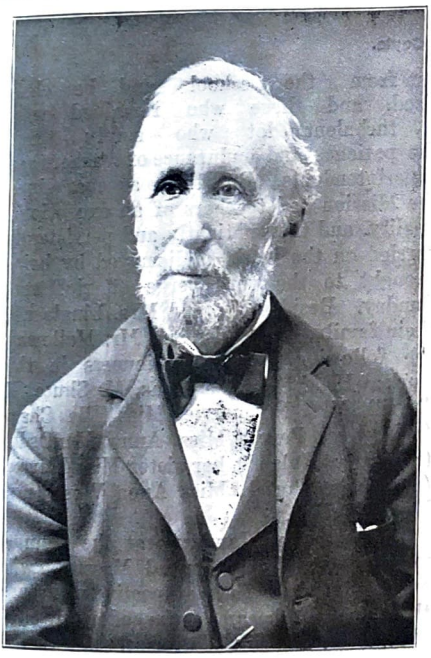
After the destruction of the church edifice it was without delay decided to rebuild on the same site and a handsome new edifice was completed and dedicated November 12, 1854, costing about $30.000.

In May, 1855 the Baptist National Anniversaries were held in the new church building, being the first time these meetings had convened in the west.

In July, 1852 there was only one Baptist pastor in Chicago, Rev. Lewis Raymond, of the Tabernacle Church. The pastorate of the First Church was vacant since the death of Dr. Tucker. In the two churches there were about 650 members. Chicago had at that time a population of 38,000.

It was on August 31, 1853 that the first number of THE CHRISTIAN TIMES, now THE STANDARD was published with the pastor, Dr. Burroughs, for nearly three months as principal editor and Dr. L. D. Boone as financial manager, when it was transferred to Rev. Leroy Church and Dr. Justin A. Smith, also members of the First Church.

During Dr. Burroughs' pastorate a considerable number—about thirty—Swedes, were baptized and received into the church, and in 1854 a German Lutheran Church



James K. Burtis

was offered for sale on North La Salle street, which was purchased for $900. The money for this purpose was raised at a communion service. On November 13, 1854, the Scandinavian Baptist Church was organized, and L. L. Frisk, a member of the First Church, was ordained pastor.

In January, 1856 Mr. James K. Burtis was elected treasurer of the church, and with wonderful devotion and efficiency served for nearly forty-five years until his death in October, 1901. Mr. Burtis came to Chicago from Philadelphia in 1852. He was married in September 1853 to Miss A. H. Bentley, who is living at this time and an esteemed member of the church. It was in his official character as treasurer that Mr. Burtis' special fitness and ability were seen. He gave his energy and business skill to the financial interests of the church and proved through times of panic and fire his wise leadership and foresight. He was thoroughly devoted to the church in all its interests both local and world-wide. His life was a quiet forceful one, carrying with it a commanding influence for good, and a respect and esteem which only noble and loyal souls achieve.

In 1856 the Edina Place Baptist Church now the Immanuel Church was organized almost exclusively from members of the First Church.

After a successful pastorate of three and one-half years, when some two hundred new members were added to the church, Dr. Burroughs in May, 1856, resigned to engage in founding the "Old University of Chicago." The first record of a meeting to inaugurate the movement was one called May 5, 1856, by Dr. Burroughs. It was held in the lecture room of the church on Washington street. The writer was present at this meeting. It was stated that Judge Stephen A. Douglas had offered to donate ten acres of land on Cottage Grove avenue and Thirty-fourth street, on condition that the foundation of a building be laid the present year, $25,000 expended in 1857 and buildings to the amount of $100,000 erected within 1860. Dr. Burroughs and Dr. Charles H. Roe made stirring speeches. The First Church heartily cooperated with Dr. Burroughs in the great undertaking and the members and friends subscribed some $80,000 towards the enterprise. The main building of the University was erected as was also the Dearborn Observatory. Excellent educational results were obtained for about thirty years, but from financial difficulties the site was sold under the large accumulated mortgage, and the University was abandoned.

Rev. W. G. Howard, D. D., from the Second Baptist Church, Rochester, N. Y. succeeded Dr. Burroughs, as the eighth pastor, the latter part of May, 1856. In September following the Union Park now

the Fourth Baptist Church, was organized, and in November, 1857, the North Church was organized; and again in April, 1857 the Evanston Church was organized, all from members of the First Church.

In September, 1856 the New Street Mission Sunday School was started with B. F. Jacobs as superintendent. This was the first mission school organized by the Baptists of Chicago, and was afterwards named the Shields Mission.

In 1857 a few earnest Baptist young men —Edward Cooper, Andrew McLeish, W. Atchinson, Jr., A. C. Lechie, James Goodman with some others organized "The Young Men's Religious Improvement Society of Chicago." It increased to about fifty members and in 1858, the society called a meeting which resulted in the organization of "The Young Men's Christian Association of Chicago" of which Cyrus Bentley, a member of the First Church, was the first president.

Dr. Howard was an eloquent preacher. During his pastorate of three years 220 new members were added to the church, a large number of them by baptism. In May 1859 Dr. Howard resigned and became pastor of the Colliseum Place Baptist Church, New Orleans. He died in New Orleans early in the history of the war, having attracted large audience in that city by his eloquence as he had done in Chicago. Dr. Howard was succeeded by Dr. W. W. Everts as the ninth pastor of the church, and preached his first sermon July 12, 1859.

(To be continued.)

The Story of Raymond Mission

Charles H. Coyle.

Raymond Mission owes its origin to the efforts of one man, our brother S. B. Lingle. He bought the building, and moved it to its present site in 1886. The building had been used as a market but Mr. Lingle had it fitted up as a meeting room, and in the spring of that year a number of brethren of the First German Church, led by the Pastor, Rev. H. L. Meier, started a German Sunday School. But they had a long way to come and many other difficulties were encountered, so, after two or three months they decided to discontinue the work. Mr. Lingle then interested enough of our own people to carry on a work in that neighborhood, and in June 1886 the Mission started on its career. It was given the name it bears in honor of the venerable and greatly beloved Elder Raymond.

Mr. Twiss was appointed the first superintendent of the Sunday School and Mr. Geo. Holloway, Secretary. Each Sunday afternoon a busload of workers rode over from the First Church; and though our church took no official action concerning the Mission until the next year, there was a very general and live interest in it from the start. This invasion of St. Bridget's parish met with severe opposition. It was a common thing for the children to be called out from the school and be chastized, and those who remained were a turbulent lot who sorely taxed the patience and endurance of teachers and superintendents. But then, as ever since, the Mission had teachers of an exceptional quality, and they patiently and persistently carried on the work, undismayed by being brought to the very verge of riot each Sunday. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Lingle and their family, Mr. Twiss and Mr. Holloway, the following were the pioneers in this work: H. F. Googins, Chas. M. Shute, R. Turrill, Mrs. McQuarrie, Miss Ella Chave (now Mrs. Barr), Miss Anna VanOsdel, (now Mrs. Hyland) her sister Miss Harriet (now Mrs. Shute), Miss Anna West (now Mrs. Fowler).

The following January at the annual meeting, the church elected Messrs. Twiss and Holloway to their respective posts and the mission became the adopted child of the church. Mr. Twiss served two full terms as superintendent, when R. H. Ismon took his place. Since then W. H. Craig, L. T. Austermell, L. C. Humphrey, Mr. Craig again, and finally the present incumbent L. T. Austermell, have filled the post.

Many have observed that the Mission is noted for the long service of those who take

up the work. Mr. Turrill was one of the first teachers and is still at work; Miss Ella Chave (Mrs. Barr) was a teacher for fifteen years; while we still have Miss Van Fradenburg, Miss Miller, Miss Reeder and Mrs. Austermell, who have been at work over ten years. There are many others who have served from five to eight years each.

The Sunday School was the first work begun at the Mission, but very soon after preaching services were begun at the close of the Sunday School. John Lowry, Jr., converted a short time before at the First Church, volunteered his services, served several months and was succeeded by William Lusk. There were many who came and went after that, preaching for us a few Sundays, until finally in 1892 the next step forward was taken. Mr. Daniel Shepardson, the Assistant Pastor of the First Church took as part of his duties the conduct of preaching services at the Mission Sunday nights and also did pastoral work in the neighborhood. Increasing ill-health took from the work this most effective and successful leader—the first real pastor of the mission. After him in 1893 John L. Proctor became pastor to be succeeded a few months later by our beloved Dr. M. D. Eubank, who with Mrs. Eubank is now with Mr. and Mrs. Proctor, missionaries in Hu Chau, China.

The Mission has been greatly blessed in the kind of men chosen to be its pastors, but it has been hard to lose in such quick succession Mr. Shepardson, Dr. Eubank, R. M. Vaughan, E. A. E. Palmquist, W. H. Fuller, F. C. W. Parker, F. W. Swift and E. R. Dow, each of whom secured a firm hold upon the affections of the people and then had to leave for other labors. We trust that Mr. W. M. Embree who now takes up the work may be ours for many years.

But there in one most important part of the Mission's work that has not been mentioned—the Industrial School, under the auspices of the Benevolent Society of the church. Under the leadership of Mrs. Donnelley and of Miss Morgan, our Sunday School missionary, the Industrial School was started in the fall of 1887. A policeman was indispensable at each session, but his presence served only to tone down and did not at all prevent the lawlessness of the adversaries. Broken windows and ruined locks were unheeded incidents, while in severe weather the cold and drafty building, which could not be properly heated, made the work really dangerous to health. But not all the influence of priests and fanatical comrades could keep the children from the school and little by little the patient and devoted force of workers won their way. The Bible lesson was a prominent part of their exercises, taught at first by Miss Morgan and later by her successors, Miss Haigh and Miss Stewart. For about three years the ladies maintained a kindergarten also at the Mission. The value of this can hardly be overestimated. Workers from the Missionary Training School assisted in this work and it was an exceedingly attractive part of the Mission work. Those familiar with the neighborhood will appreciate how great is the need of such an institution. The Industrial School is still a thriving and important branch of the Mission work with Mrs. Wigney as Superintendent.

We have not room here to enlarge upon the need which this Mission meets, nor upon the results that have blessed the work. Our Pastor in his February "message" called attention to the fact that the Mission is situated in a district with 60,000 inhabitants ministered to by the Mission and three other small Protestant forces. Let it be remembered that while the bulk of the people are honest and industrious, there are hundreds of homes made desolate by poverty and drunkenness. The street is the real home for throngs of children who through the Mission may be reached by the love and teaching of God's truth.

The first period of the history of the Mission is drawing to a close. The action of the Park Board in taking the property compels the Mission to secure a new building. May God put it into the hearts of our people to rise to the present opportunity—not only to continue the work but to do a greater work for which the previous years have prepared the way.

The Church at Work

Christian Endeavor

Miss E. M. Pickett, Dept. Editor

Raymond Mission has been brought before us so many times in the last month that we feel nearer together and better acquainted with it than ever before. This society is proud of the fact that many of our members are working there. Best of all we are glad that the executive committee has faith and enthusiasm enough to measure the ability of our members, not by their number or pocketbooks, but by their largeheartedness, and consecration in the pledge of one thousand dollars for the mission building. They are counting on each member to take a share in this investment. Christian Endeavor is never backward, and Christian Endeavorers always come to the front when opportunity offers. Let us also be prompt.

Our Missionary Committee this month brought us messages from the workers in the fields, especially from those who are entirely or in part supported by the society, or by individual members of the society. These included a letter reporting the work Miss Florence Duffield started just before her return from Japan to this country before her death. It has been wonderfully blessed.

The Missionary Committee would like very much to receive all pledges that have been made for the Chinese mission or the Duffield memorial fund for this term before June first.

We are eagerly looking forward to the time when we shall be able again to hold our open air services. Many of the older church members enjoyed working with us last year, and we hope many more will assist us this year.

Chicago Christian Endeavor Union.

Friday evening, April 29th, the society adjourned to attend in a body the annual rally of the Chicago Union held at Christ Reformed Episcopal Church. The words of our Pastor as he installed the new officers were very inspiring to all of us. Mr. Wm. Williams of the West Division Union is the new president of the Chicogo Union. This was followed by an address on "Claims upon Our Young People," by Prof. S. D. Fess of Chicago University.

The annual event of the year is the Christian Endeavor boat ride. It occurs June 25th, starting at 3 p. m. for Michigan City where we will be entertained by the Endeavorers of that city, returning in the evening. Do not forget the date.

Union Rally

Epworth League and Christian Endeavor societies of the south side, at the Oakland Methodist Episcopal Church, Thursday, May 12th, at 7:45 p. m. Please reserve the date as we want to attend in full force to show our loyalty to our Pastor who will give the address on "Open Air Evangelism"—a subject in which we are all interested.

Ladies' Benevolent Society

Mrs. W. Morava, Dept. Editor

During the month of April the meetings of the Ladies Benveolent Society have been largely attended. Most of the work has been for the children at the Home for Missionarie's Children at Morgan Park. It was a great pleasure on April 1st to have Miss Durfee with us, and to hear her speak of her short stay in the west. On April 15th we were delighted to have a lagre number who because of illness or sorrow have been kept at home for some time, join us again. It was unanimously voted that we continue our meetings through May. We sympathize with Mrs. Baird in the death of her father.

Women's Mission Circle

Mrs. S. B. Lingle, Dept. Editor

The threatening weather on April eighth reduced our number at the circle to thirty-seven. The interesting program well repaid those who made the effort to come. The subject of immigration was presented. Mrs. Tomlinson told of work at Ellis Island, where 10,000 immigrants can be handled in a day, and described some of the pathetic scenes witnessed in the detention room, where those must wait, who lack the money to reach their destination in other parts of the country, or whose

friends have for some cause failed to meet and claim them.

Miss Kose of the Training School told of the careful patient work of the three women missionaries, Miss Rapp, Miss Melby and Miss Johnson who represent the Womens' Home Mission Society at the landing place on Ellis Island. Besides aiding these lonely strangers in many practical ways the missionaries distribute a large number of testaments among them and the good seed has in many cases brought forth abundant harvest.

Mrs. Morava read a paper on the problems of Immigration. These are political and social as well as religious. Before 1880 eighty per cent of the foreigners coming to our country were from Western Europe, and represented the industrious class of Germany and Sweden, while at the present time seventy-five per cent of the immigrants are from eastern Europe and Asia and are many of them a menace to our institutions. The Bohemians alone publish thirty infidel papers in this country. Mrs. McFadden closed the program by relating some of the tragedies of immigration.

The faithful work of the solicitors deserves mention. All the lists have been returned to the treasurer.

Seventeen of our members attended the annual meeting of the Women's Mission Union in the Centennial church. It was a matter for rejoicing that the Women's Societies for Home and Foreign Missions are closing the year without a debt. The hour devoted to memorial services for Mrs. C. D. Morris was full of tender memories. Mrs. Hopkins of India gave the address of the afternoon.

The Circle meeting on the tenth of June will be the last before the summer vacation. The program will be a musical one showing the reflex influence of poetry and music upon the work of missions.

The Women's Missionary Circle will meet in the Lecture room on Friday May 13th at two o'clock. The study of China will be continued. Its religions being the special subject.

Amoret Henson Guild

Miss B. M. Harvey, Dept. Editor

The regular monthly meeting and supper of the Guild was, as usual, a delight to the girls who braved the storm that raged so fiercely the last Monday in April. The supper hour was made doubly attractive by the presence of both Dr. and Mrs. de Blois. The girls deeply appreciate this hour given from the busy life of our Pastor and hope they may expect him as a regular visitor hereafter.

After a brief talk by Mr. Embree at our business meeting, it was decided that the Guild pledge one hundred dollars toward the Raymond Mission building fund. The girls have already proved their ability to rise to an occasion, and we feel sure they will not fail to meet this pledge before the year is up.

The flourishing condition of our basket-weaving class and Glee Club bear witness to the fact that our former efforts at raising money were more than repaid as the latter work, at least, has been made possible by them.

We were glad to welcome three new members at this meeting.

The Glee Club

We are encouraged to see that the empty places left by some of our club members are being filled by new comers.

Our study grows more interesting as we grow in ability to take more difficult work. Prof. Havens suggested that the members give solos at the regular Monday rehearsals. Acting on this suggestion, a committee requests one girl each week to be prepared with a song, and several solos have been rendered. This makes a pleasing break in our study hour and results in great good to the soloist, so says our wise director.

Men's League

C. M. Clarke, Dept. Editor

A very interesting program was carried out at our April meeting, held on the eighteenth of the month. The speaker for the evening was Maj. De Young who gave us "Personal Reminiscences of the Battle of Gettysburg". He pictured, in vivid colors the horrors of a great battle and made us realize, as never before, the heroism of the boys who fought the battles of the nation in the mighty conflict of 1861-5.

Deacon Ahrens recited a poem, entitled "John Burns" and Col. Emery read "Lincoln's Gettysburg speech." Both were received with great applause.

The Bible Class.

Again we wish to call special attention to "The men's Bible Class," which now meets with the Sabbath School, at the regular hour, 9:30 o'clock, a. m. Every member of the League, be he young or old, unless he is otherwise engaged at that hour should be in this class. And by "otherwise engaged" we do not mean engaged in sleeping. We get to business by 9:30 during the week and let us have the same diligence in the Father's business. We will just say, however, that if any man finds it impossible to get to the church by 9:30, his presence will be very acceptable at 10:00 sharp, as that is the time at which the study of the lesson is taken up. Come at 10:00 if you must but—COME.

Boys' Club

A. R. Rhenisch, Dept. Editor

The meetings of April 2nd and 16th, were of special interest to the boys during the past month.

On the evening of April 2nd, we had the pleasure of having with us, our Pastor, who gave the boys a most interesting talk on his "Travels in the Land of the Barbary Pirates." He was followed with intense interest, as he related the story of his visit from city to city. At the close of the talk, the boys, with one accord, invited him to "come again."

On April 16th a stereopticon lecture on Palestine, was given by Mr. Arthur H. Ben-Oliel, under the auspices of the Boys' Club.

Mr. Ben-Oliel very kindly consented to tell us of his visits to the Holy Land. He was attired in oriental costume.

The boys are very anxious to secure something in the line of gymnasium work. We hope that the day is not far away when we will be enabled to do such a work.

Resignation

Rev. F. C. W. Parker

To the First Baptist Church of Chicago,

Dear friends: About four years ago I was surprised by a letter from Dr. Henson concerning the assistant pastorate of this noble and historic church. That call—entirely unsought by me and opening to me a wide door of opportunity—I was led to consider as the call of God, and I began my labors with you July 1, 1900.

After nearly four busy and happy years with you, the voice of that same man of God has again called me to become associated with him in his new field of labor. This second time also I believe that it is the voice of the Heavenly Father.

In my innermost soul I have long cherished the hope that when I did leave this much-loved church, I should do so by a call that was absolutely unsought by me and one that was brought about through a knowledge of my ministry in this church. This new call fulfills this long-cherished hope and offers to me a far larger field in which to give myself in consecrated service for the Master.

The decision has been reached only through struggle and heart ache. The ties which bind me to you and to this beloved church have stoutly refused to break asunder. Many have been the voices that bade me stay. But I can only feel that it is my duty to go.

I therefore tender to you this, my resignation as your Assistant Pastor, asking that it take effect April 30, so that on May 1 I may enter upon my labors as the Assistant Pastor of the Tremont Temple, Boston.

In my first editorial in your church paper, after thanking you for your cordial welcome I said:

"The Assistant Pastor now asks that you permit him to assist you in all possible ways, because his coming is 'to minister and not to be ministered unto.' He remembers Paul's words to the Thesalonians: " * * * even so, being affectionately desirous of you we were pleased to impart unto you not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were become very dear to us.' He prays that these words may in some measure describe his ministry among you, so that you may say of his 'entering unto you, that it hath not been found vain'."

That prayer of the beginning of my work

Rev. F. C. W. Parker

is the prayer I utter at the close of my ministry among you. I wrote that editorial little realizing the many and large responsibilities which the future would place upon me. But in the spirit of those words have I labored through all the months and the years—while by the side of Dr. Henson, when bearing alone the ministry of a pastorless church and during the past year with its delightful association with Dr. de Blois.

Because "ye were become very dear" to me, I counted it my greatest joy to give to you some of the best years of my young manhood—my "own soul." Gladly have I borne the burdening labors which the years have brought, but this present task—the hardest of them all—can only be accomplished with a heart-pang of sorrow.

I thank you for your large-hearted welcome and for the position of confidence which you have always accorded me. I thank you for your whole-souled co-operation in my manifold labors, and especially in the inauguration of new lines of work. I thank you for the cheer of your hospitable homes and for the strength of your warm-hearted friendships. I thank you for the high privilege of serving the Master for four years in this historic church.

For these choicest blessings, and for all your many, many loving-kindnesses to both Mrs. Parker and myself I thank you.

Believe me when I say that these joyful years of service lived with you in this dear church will always abide in our hearts as a constantly cherished and ever-blessed memory.

May the Heavenly Father bless you richly in all your Christian living and Christian service.

Yours in Christian love,
Frederic C. W. Parker

April 10, 1904

Church Life

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The Pastor's Message

Last month we said our farewells to Assistant Pastor Parker and gave our welcomes to Assistant Pastor Embree. So seasons of regret and joy were mingled. During Mr. Parker's three or four years of service in connection with our church he achieved a noble and helpful ministry and endeared himself to the hearts of many, not only in the church but as well in the community at large. He goes from us with the prayers and good wishes of a host of people. May God bless him richly in all his labor of love for our Lord and Master.

Mr. Embree comes to us after years of successful experience in two of the strongest and most wideawake churches in our big city. He has entered into the work at Raymond with enthusiasm and power. The young people are gathering about him. The outlook is very bright. The workers on the Raymond field are telling us that the old First church never seemed so dear to them before. The friends at the Home Church are saying that they were never so much interested in the Mission. Well, isn't that grand? The work is not two but one.

By the way that word "Mission" suggests slum or rescue work. It is used now-a-days so constantly in reference to feeble interests in abandoned neighborhoods that it gives a false idea with regard to the enterprise which we are conducting. Would not "Raymond Chapel" be a more dignified and fitting title? "Raymond Chapel of the First Baptist Church;" how does that sound?

Certainly last Sunday settled the future of our Raymond work, and settled it in exactly the right way, "The First Church Way." When the Pastor asked for ten thousand dollars the looks of blank incredulity or pleasant humor—as though the statement were a genial joke—which flitted across the faces of many in the congregation were an interesting study. But what a snow-storm of pledge-cards followed! And at the day's end we had over nine thousand dollars subscribed, and the balance easily in sight. As one of the old and honored members of the church said after the morning service, "This day will be memorable indeed in the history of our church." It surely will. And the joy of it all is that the various societies of the church have entered into the undertaking with so great a heart of loyalty and so splendid a spirit of determination. Let us go forward, marching together with the same high courage and devoted zeal.

Your Pastor,
Austen K. de Blois.

Special Sermons

Our Pastor begins today a series of Sunday morning sermons to be given at intervals during the next two months, on the general theme, "Vital Question in Christian Thought and Life." The special topics are as follows:

1. What is Christianity?
2. Who is Jesus Christ?
3. What is Faith?
4. Who is the Holy Spirit?
5. What is the Christian Life?

The Journal of the Church

H. F. Perkins, Church Clerk

April 1. Friday. Meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting. An Easter service led by Miss Barstow. Topic: "Our victories through Christ," 1 Cor. 15:50-58.

April 2. Saturday. Boy's Club. A very interesting talk by Dr. de Blois.

April 3. Easter Sunday. The Pastor preached special Easter sermons. In the morning the topic was "The New Life in Christ" and in the evening, "After the Resurrection."

April 6. Wednesday. Monthly missionary prayer meeting.

April 8. Friday. Meeting of the Women's Mission Circle; topic, "Immigration."

Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Mr. Frank Ault, Pres. South Division C. E. Union. Topic, "How the world's standards conflict with Christ." Matt. 5:43-48; 1 John 2:15-17.

April 9. Saturday. Boy's Club.

April 10. Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor, morning: "Weeds by the Way," evening: "The American Young Man, Christ's Command."

April 11. Monday. Meeting of the Onward Class addressed by Dr. de Blois.

April 13. Wednesday. Church Prayer and Social Service led by Assistant Pastor Parker. Topic: "What Most Interferes with the Living of the Highest Life?"

April 15. Friday. Meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor monthly missionary meeting led by Miss Helen Pickett.

April 16. Saturday. The Boy's Club entertained the members of the Sunday School. Mr. Ben. Oliel gave an illustrated talk on "Palestine."

April 17. Sunday. The Pastor preached in the morning on "Light Beyond," and in the evening on "The American Young Woman, Christ's Royal Invitation."

April 18. Monday. Meeting of the Men's League. An interesting description of the Battle of Gettysburg by Maj. R. R. De Young and music by Mr. A. B. Knight and the League Quartette made a very enjoyable evening.

April 20. Wednesday. Church Prayer and Social Service. Topic: "Our Guide through Life's Mazes." John 14:16-18.

April 21. Farewell reception to Rev. and Mrs. F. C. W. Parker.

April 22. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Mr. J. A. Hessler. Topic: "How Christ Transforms Lives." Rom. 12:1, 2; Phil. 3:20-21.

April 23. Saturday. Boy's Club.

April 24. Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor, morning: "A Great Salvation," evening: "American Vices and Vanities, Christ's Remedy."

April 25. Supper, meeting and classes of the Amoret Henson Guild. Meeting of the Onward Bible Class addressed by Col. Emery.

April 26. Tuesday. An illustrated lecture by Miss Tei Morita and Mr. Sueji Miyamore on "Japan and its People," under the auspices of the Fisher Mission Band and for the benefit of the Raymond Mission Building Fund.

April 27. Wednesday. Monthly covenant prayer meeting. Topic: "One God; one people; one heart; one way." Jer. 32:38-41.

April 30. Saturday. Boy's Club.

Changes in Membership

Additions.

By Baptism:

Laura Duffy, 2625 Calumet Avenue.
Miss Harriett Shearer, 58 31st Street.

By Letter:

Mrs. Mary Duffy, 2625 Calumet Avenue.

By Restoration:

Rev. J. A. Deckhard, Indianapolis, Ind.

By Experience:

Mrs. Nathan W. Geary, 2966 Vernon Ave.
Mrs. J. R. Little, 3020 South Park Ave.

Diminutions.

By Letter:

Rev. J. A. Deckard, John L. Olsen, Mrs. Elizabeth Dunford.

By Death:

Mrs. Lucina Thompson.

Easter

Nicoll Halsey

Do you want to know the reason
That all gladness is in season
On blessed Easter day,
Why garlands green and flowers fair
And lightened hearts its tokens are
And new hope and joy alway?

You have heard the dreadful story
How the Lord of life and glory
Silent lay within the tomb,
While the heavens were o'erclouded
And all nature dark and shrouded
In a pall of deepest gloom.

Think of the cruel, bitter grief
Of those who loved Him, their belief
In Him and His power to save
Wrecked and lost in hopeless sorrow,
Without promise for the morrow,
Buried in that garden grave.

The wonders wrought in Galilee
Hid in the night of Calvary,
Blotted out their hope so high,
Since He, the prophesied of yore,
Who David's kingdom should restore,
Had, like mortal man, to die.

But you know the glad awaking
When the new born day was breaking,
Primal day of Christian grace,
How to the women the angels said
"Seek not the living among the dead,
Lo! here is His empty place."

How quick they sped with eager feet
The mournful company to greet,
The wonderful news to tell,
"The Lord is risen, is risen indeed,
By His own power Himself hath freed
From the bonds of death and hell."

"For, oh, the stone is rolled away,
No corpse within the cavern lay,
Alleluia, He is risen,
To Peter He hath just appeared
And Mary's heart His word hath cheered,
Death could not the Lord imprison."

And then remembered they the word
Once spoken by their risen Lord,
Now with a new meaning rife,
The word they had not understood,
And praised with love and gratitude
Christ the Way, the Truth, the Life.

Thank God for that first Easter day,
Its message is a glory ray,
"Rejoice, children of the dust,
Since Christ is risen from the dead
There is no death but life instead
For all those who in Him trust."

For us He rose, as then for them,
Ours, too, the star of Bethlehem,
Ours His sacrifice sublime,
The power that burst the bands of death
And gave assurance to all faith
Knows not any measured time.

And the life He gives, immortal,
Far beyond Death's frowning portal,
The life that has no ending,
The grandest life, the truest life,
With garnered gain of mortal strife
In heavenly essence blending.

The life that is and that shall be,
The open tomb a guarantee
Of a future filled with bliss,
Where we shall meet each long lost friend
In sweet communion without end
In a better world than this.

This is the day the Lord hath made,
So the prophetic minstrel said,
The Lord is risen, rejoice,
The shining ranks of the Seraphim
And glittering host of heaven praise him.
Shall the song lack mortal voice?
No, praise to God, the God triune,
The Father, Holy Spirit, Son,
One God alone of glory,
Let earth and heaven swell the song
And every voice its notes prolong,
The resurrection story.

Raymond Mission

L. T. Austermell, Dept. Editor

On Monday Eve, April 18th, a small delegation from Raymond Mission journeyed to the Belden Ave. Church to witness the ordination of our assistant pastor, Mr. W. M. Embree. Dr. de Blois preached the sermon and set forth the wonderful privileges that are the minister's; first to be occupied in the most important of all earthly duties and secondly in having at the head of his profession what no other profession has, a perfect model, the Lord Himself.

Mr. Embree's wife has returned to the city and paid her first visit to the Mission last Sunday evening. She is most heartily welcomed. We hope for large results from her cooperation with our assistant pastor in the Mission work.

In a recent letter from his station at Hu Chau, China, Dr. Eubonk, our assistant pastor in 1893-94 whose memory is lovingly cherished by many of our people, writes to express his joy that at last the cause of Raymond Mission is being taken up by the home church in the way he labored to have it taken up ten years ago.

It is comforting to note how strong an attachment for the Mission is cherished by all who have ever been of our number and though our former members are scattered all over the city we have them continually visiting us from North, West and extreme South side homes. The place is dear because here God has blessed us.

To enable the children of the Sunday School to help toward the building of the new mission a plan was inaugrated last Sunday to have them buy "bricks" at 25 cents each for the building. Red boxes shaped like bricks were given to all who desired them to be returned when 25 cents had been deposited therein. The scholars name is then pasted on the brick and it is "laid" at once. We have the walls rising before our eyes on a table in the school and over 30 bricks were bought for spot cash as soon as the plan was explained.

Under the leadership of Mr. Chas. Wilshire a Young Ladies Drill Corp has been organized. Miss Rose Maier is the President; Sophie Olsen, Vice-president; Esther Powers, Secretary; Mr. Wilshire is drill-master. Uniforms are to be bought soon.